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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Mitsuhiro MORI et al.

Appl. No : 08/868,914

Filed : July 11, 2001

For : DISPLAY DEVICE AND METHOD OF DRIVING THE SAME



Group Art Unit: 2673

Examiner: Unknown

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97-1.98,
Applicants hereby call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

An International Search Report (submitted with the filing of the above-captioned application), issued on February 6, 2001 for counterpart Application No. PCT/JP00/07801, in which the following documents were cited:

(1) Japanese Laid Open Publication No. HEI 11-282416 (MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION), which was published on October 15, 1999, along with an English language Abstract of the same, was cited as an X-Category document (i.e., document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone) with respect to claims 1, 6-8, and 39; and an A-Category document (i.e., document defining the general state

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of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance) with respect to claims 2-5, 9-38, and 40-45. The Examiner indicated claim 1; paragraph nos. [0072-0075], [0079-0083]; and Figs. 2 and 5 to be relevant. Applicants note that this document is discussed on page 7 of the specification of the instant application;

(2) Japanese Laid Open Publication No. HEI 11-109914 (MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION), which was published on April 23, 1999, along with an English language Abstract of the same, was cited as an A-Category document with respect to claims 1-45. The Examiner indicated the full text and all the drawings to be relevant;

(3) Japanese Laid Open Publication No. HEI 8-314405 (FUJITSU LIMITED), which was published on November 29, 1996, along with an English language Abstract of the same, was cited as an A-Category document with respect to claims 1-45. The Examiner indicated the full text and all the drawings to be relevant;

(4) Japanese Laid Open Publication No. HEI 11-219150 (HITACHI, LTD.), which was published on August 10, 1999, along with an English language Abstract of the same, was cited as an A-Category document with respect to claims 1-45. The Examiner indicated the full text and all the drawings to be relevant;

(5) Japanese Laid Open Publication No. HEI 9-319329 (HITACHI, LTD.), which was published on December 12, 1997, along with an English language Abstract of the same, was cited as an A-Category document with respect to claims 3 and 5. The Examiner indicated paragraph no. [0016] to be relevant;

(6) Japanese Laid Open Publication No. HEI 7-44127 (FUJITSU LIMITED), which was published on February 14, 1995, along with an English language Abstract of the same, was cited as an A-Category document with respect to claims 14-38 and 43-45. The Examiner indicated the full text and all the drawings to be relevant;

(7) European Patent Application No. 0 755 043 (FUJITSU GENERAL LIMITED), which was published on January 22, 1997, was cited as an A-Category document with respect to claims 14-38 and 43-45. The Examiner indicated the full text and all the drawings to be relevant. Applicants also enclose herewith U.S. Patent No. 6,061,040 to ONODERA et al., which issued on May 9, 2000, which is a family member of the European Patent Application;

(8) Japanese Laid Open Publication No. HEI 9-244575 (FUJITSU LIMITED), which was published on September 19, 1997, along with an English language Abstract of the same, was cited as an A-Category document with respect to claims 14-38 and 43-45. The Examiner indicated the full text and all the drawings to be relevant; and

(9) Japanese Laid Open Publication No. HEI 11-316572 (NEC CORPORATION), which was published on November 16, 1999, along with an English language Abstract of the same, was cited as a P-Category document (i.e., document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed) and an A-Category document with respect to claims 14-38 and 43-45. The Examiner indicated the full text and all the drawings to be relevant.

A Japanese Notification of Reason(s) for Refusal (Office Action), dated June 20, 2001 for counterpart Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-291987 is enclosed along with an English language translation thereof, in which the following documents are cited:

(10) Japanese Laid Open Publication No. HEI 11-282416 (mentioned above).

Applicants enclose a partial English language translation of the same; and

(11) Japanese Laid Open Publication No. 2000-206928, which was published on July 28, 2000, along with an English language Abstract of the same.

A Japanese Notification of Reason(s) for Refusal (Office Action), dated June 20, 2001 for counterpart Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-291988 is enclosed along with an English language translation thereof, in which the following document was cited:

(12) Japanese Laid Open Publication No. HEI 11-282396, which was published on October 15, 1999, along with an English language Abstract of the same.

Applicants further call to the Examiner's attention the following document:

(13) Japanese Patent No. 2755201, which was published on March 6, 1998, along with an English language Abstract of the same that was published as Japanese Laid-Open Publicaton HEI 8-152865 of June 11, 1996.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the patent documents. Copies of the above-noted documents (except for the International Search Report), as well as copies of the Japanese Office Actions, are attached and are listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the

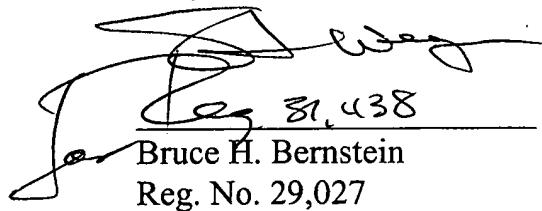
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appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not yet issued in the instant application, and thus, no fee is required to ensure the consideration of this statement. However, if an Office Action on the merits is crossing in the mail with this statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0089 any fee necessary to ensure the consideration of the cited materials.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Mitsuhiro MORI et al.



[Handwritten signature of Bruce H. Bernstein]
Bruce H. Bernstein
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October 12, 2001
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